

Brazilian Texas

THE MAGAZINE FOR - BUSINESS - SOCIAL LIFE - NEWS - POLITICS



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Thematic issues: Justice,
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religion and citizenship.



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Industry



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The Presidential election
scheduled for November
2010. The country is going
through a great moment
in its history. Significant
changes are happening
in almost every area.

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Interview



Aidner R. Neves

Mineração Curimbaba
Ltda. The Brazilian cor-
poration which manufac-
tures the oilfield products
distributed by Sintex in
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Adventure



The nice thing about the
US is that you can afford
having any motorcycle
you may want. And drive
it safely on the smooth
roads of Texas

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Business



Finances are an extensive
topic and one that is
necessary for proper
management of home and
business.

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Reception



Reception, to wish our
friends Ambassador and
Mrs. Castro a safe jour-
ney and enjoyable stay in
Hong-Kong. May the Cas-
tros meet as many friends
as they have made in
Houston, Texas.

Ambassador Antônio José Rezende de Castro, Sergio Lima Editor the Brazilian Texas Magazine and José Orlando Melo de Azevedo

Editorial

Presently, Brazil is living a moment of great expectations.

The reason for this is the Presidential election scheduled for November 2010. The country is going through a great moment in its history. Significant changes are happening in almost every area of its structure. Some of these changes are of great relevance, such as the raising of the minimum wage, and a balanced economy with profitable results, a feat not seen in years! The result of the current government has been satisfactory until now. There are highs and lows in some departments that warrant more work in order to make it right. Two major areas still in need of improvement are: Education and Public Safety. However, every governmental period works this way. It takes time to get things right. It is important to observe the positive economic balance as well as the favorable commentaries Brazil has received from countries around the world. Our country has attracted investments, its credibility has grown, and the way the country is seen by the rest of the world has drastically changed for the better. Furthermore, Brazil has stopped some bleeding! In fact it has put a stop in a great quantity of public money that was being deposited in foreign banks, into personal and business accounts of corrupt officials. Making use of impeachments and other legal maneuvers, the government got rid of many of these scoundrels; Career criminals making use of public funds without shame and accustomed to impunity. Many of these corrupt officials were strong leaders in their states and cities. They have made use of intimidation for years in order to continue their reign of corruption. But a significant cleanup was accomplished. In addition, Brazil has received great compliments from foreign countries for the success it has accomplished so far. The country is looked upon with respect, credibility, and confidence by the world's economic powers. Companies such as Petrobras serve as examples of competence, organization and knowledge to its competitors by the use of innovative technology and highly qualified workforce. The discoveries of the "Pre-Sal" are the hope and strength of our country's future! We hope that our future government be wise and be able to find a satisfactory solution to the conflict created in relation to the division of the "Royalties" by the states. Finally, I am hopeful that the future president use intelligence and wisdom in continuing the projects that have been successful and find innovative solutions to the still existent problems. I wish he do the best to the country and its people without attention and importance given to political parties and ideals. Brazilian people want to believe and trust that our government will be honest and will continue to work toward a decent quality of life to all.

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Story

The Slave King: Zumbi of Palmares



Capoeira or the Dance of War by Johann Moritz Rugendas, 1835

Quilombos

were fugitive slave settlements or slave refugee settlements. Quilombos represented slave resistance which occurred in three forms: slave settlements, attempts at seizing power, and armed insurrection. Members of quilombos often returned to plantations or towns to encourage their former fellow slaves to flee and join the quilombos. If necessary, they brought slaves by force and sabotaged plantations. Slaves who came to quilombos on their own were considered free, but those who were captured and brought by force were considered slaves and continued to be slaves in the settlement. They could be considered free if they were to bring another captive to the settlement. Quilombo dos Palmares was a self-sustaining republic of Maroons escaped from the Portuguese settlements in Brazil, "a region perhaps the size of Portugal in the hinterland of Bahia" (Braudel 1984 p 390). At its height, Palmares had a population of over 30,000. Forced to defend against repeated attacks by Portuguese colonial power, the warriors of Palmares were expert in capoeira, a martial arts form that was brought to or created in Brazil by African slaves circa the 16th century.

Early life

An African known only as Zumbi was born free in Palmares in 1655, but was captured by the Portuguese and given

to a missionary, Father Antônio Melo when he was approximately 6 years old. Baptized Francisco, Zumbi was taught the sacraments, learned Portuguese and Latin, and helped with daily mass. Despite attempts to pacify him, Zumbi escaped in 1670 and, at the age of 15, returned to his birthplace. Zumbi became known for his physical prowess and cunning in battle and was a respected military strategist by the time he was in his early twenties.

Leader of the Quilombo dos Palmares

By 1678, the governor of the captaincy of Pernambuco, Pedro Almeida, weary of the longstanding conflict with Palmares, approached its leader Ganga Zumba with an olive branch. Almeida offered freedom for all runaway slaves if Palmares would submit to Portuguese authority, a proposal which Ganga Zumba favored. But Zumbi was distrustful of the Portuguese. Further, he refused to accept freedom for the people of Palmares while other Africans remained enslaved. He rejected Almeida's overture and challenged Ganga Zumba's leadership. Vowing to continue the resistance to Portuguese oppression, Zumbi became the new leader of Palmares. Fifteen years after Zumbi assumed leadership of Palmares, Portuguese military commanders Domingos Jorge Velho and Bernardo Vieira de Melo mounted an artillery assault on the quilombo.



February 6, 1694, after 67 years of ceaseless conflict with the cafuzos, or Maroons, of Palmares, the Portuguese succeeded in destroying Cerca do Macaco, the republic's central settlement. Before the king Ganga Zumba was dead, Zumbi had taken it upon himself to fight for Palmares' independence. In doing so he became known as the commander-in-chief in 1675. Due to his heroic efforts it increased his prestige. Palmares' warriors were no match for the Portuguese artillery; the republic fell, and Zumbi was wounded in one leg.

Death

Though he survived and managed to elude the Portuguese and continue the rebellion for almost two years, he was betrayed by a mulato who belonged to the quilombo and had been captured by the Paulista, and, in return for his life, led them to Zumbi's hideout. Zumbi was captured and beheaded on the spot November 20 1695 . The Portuguese transported Zumbi's head to Recife, where it was displayed in the central praca as proof that, contrary to popular legend among African Slaves, Zumbi was not immortal. This was also done as a warning of what would happen to others if they tried to be as brave as him. Remnants of quilombo dwellers continued to reside in the region for another hundred years.

Importance today

November 20 is celebrated, chiefly in Brazil, as a day of black consciousness. The day has special meaning for those Brazilians of African descent who honor Zumbi as a hero, freedom fighter, and symbol of freedom. Zumbi has become a hero of the twentieth-century Afro-Brazilian political movement.

Interview



Aidner R. Neves

Is Technical Vice President and General Manager.

BT How long has Sintex been in the U.S. Market?

Mineração Curimbaba Ltda, the Brazilian corporation which manufactures the oilfield products distributed by Sintex in North America, came to the United States in 1991, using a local distributor in Houston, Texas. In 1993 the distributors became commercial agents and Curimbaba decided to open a company in Texas to store and distribute proppants in the US, Mexico and Canada. A small warehouse on the Northwest side of Houston was the beginning of what is now Sintex Minerals & Services, Inc.

BT When was the first office opened in Houston?

Sintex was founded in August, 1993 with headquarters in that same small warehouse near US 290 and IH 610. In 1998, upon the expiration of the agreement with its former commercial agents, Curimbaba has put together its own sales force and has made Sintex its exclusive distributor in North America. In 2004 Sintex moved to a 85,000 sqft facility in Rosenberg, Texas on a 17 acres of land.

BT What are Sintex products?

Mineração Curimbaba products distributed by Sintex are called proppants. They are small spheres made predominantly of sintered bauxite (an aluminum ore). Those spheres are mixed with water and special additives and pumped into oil and natural gas wells by service companies.

The operation of creating fractures in a formation which contains oil, gas or both by pumping fluids at high pressure into the well is called hydraulic fracturing. Proppants then hold the fractures open to greatly improve production.



Depending on several factors, service companies specify different proppants. Depth, pressure and temperature are among the parameters which influence proppant selection. Sintex distributes products for a wide range of applications. SinterBall, Mineração Curimbaba's flagship proppant, is a high strength product for deep, hot, high-pressure applications. SinterLite is an intermediate strength product designed for moderate well conditions. SinterBlast is an abrasive angular product which makes it easier to initiate the fractures. SinterBall Lock and SinterLite Lock are proppants which can minimize the problem of proppant not remaining in the fracture.

Mineração Curimbaba owns ore reserves for all proppants it manufactures. This is very important when we are witnessing a worldwide shortage of critical raw materials. Curimbaba can assure the continuous supply because it does not rely on third party raw material sources.

Mineração Curimbaba proppants have been used with great success in oil and gas shales. Shales are tight formations holding gigantic volumes of oil and natural gas. Natural gas, the greener alternative among all fossil fuels, can be the redemption of the US when it relates to energy needs. A comprehensive strategy of incentivizing natural gas utilization as vehicular fuel can make the United States less dependent on foreign fuels.

BT Who are Sintex clients?

The oilfield service companies (Halliburton, BJ Services, Schlumberger, Frac Tech, Weatherford, among others) and the companies which apply a special resin on the proppants to enhance its performance (Hexion, Santrol, Atlas Resin among others) are Sintex's direct customers.

The oil companies, usually called operators (ExxonMobil, Shell, ConocoPhillips among others) are the end users. Services companies buy proppants from Sintex and apply them in hydraulic fracturing pumping services they perform for the operators.

BT Does Sintex have a local manufacture?

Sintex is an exclusive distributor of Mineração Curimbaba proppants for the North American market. It does not manufacture any product.

BT What is the relationship between Sintex and Mineração Curimbaba?

Sintex is a wholly owned subsidiary of Mineração Curimbaba Ltda.

BT What is your opinion about the oil spill that is taking place in the Gulf of Mexico?

A very sad accident. The worst disaster with a deepwater offshore drilling rig in the United States. It will result in several changes in safety and operating procedures and has brought the oilfield scientific community together looking for ways of preventing that tragedy to ever happen again.

Continue next page



Interview



But it should not, cannot represent the end of deepwater offshore drilling. I usually compare the Macondo well spill with the Chernobyl nuclear reactor explosion in Ukraine. There are several similarities although the magnitude of Chernobyl was by all means significantly bigger. As in the Gulf of Mexico spill there were casualties immediately following the accident and serious long-term ecological consequences in the aftermath. Both events brought fear to the surrounding communities. The cleaning process has been expensive and long. People started wondering if the processes (nuclear energy and deepwater offshore drilling) should or should not continue. Governments took impulsive actions, some of them just to calm down the public uproar. To better understand the present scenario in the Gulf of Mexico and what consequences the spill may have we should look back to 1986. Almost 25 years later the world continues to build nuclear reactors and no major accidents have been reported.

The world needs nuclear energy and the US needs deepwater offshore drilling. We have to invest in new technologies to make offshore drilling (and for that matter oil and gas drilling in general) safer.

This country cannot afford replacing the potential production losses, resulting from an eventual offshore drilling permanent ban, with foreign oil and gas.

BT Does Petrobras and Sintex have a business relationship?

Petrobras in North America has been drilling in areas which for the most part do not require Sintex products. On the other hand, Mineração Curimbaba in Brazil has a 25 year-old commercial relationship with Petrobras and supplies proppants to all regions where the later is active.

BT What are Sintex plans for the near future?

We are completing a new 60,000 sqft facility located at the same site of our main Distribution Center in Rosenberg, Texas.

This new unit will be ready by the end of August and fully operational by mid September, 2010. We are also considering an expansion of our existing 80,000 sqft facility by doubling it sometime in 2012.

These expansion plans are natural consequences of Mineração Curimbaba ambitious growth strategies which are focused not only in increasing capacity of the current production line but also in introducing new products to the North American market.

BT What is your opinion about the upcoming presidential elections in Brazil?

It is Sintex's policy not to make any comments about politics. Sintex and Mineração Curimbaba Ltda do not endorse any comments, opinions or statements regarding politics, especially about the performance of any government or government body, eventually published in this magazine

By: Sergio Lima



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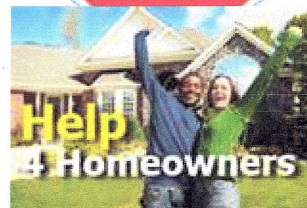
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About the Brazilian Arts Foundation

The Brazilian Arts Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing cultural education and building community through the preservation and sharing of Brazilian culture. We provide low-cost classes in Capoeira, dance, Portuguese, and music, as well as perform across the city, and host events that promote education, good health, and vibrant culture.

The Brazilian Arts Foundation was created in 2001 to preserve and promote Brazilian culture in the greater Houston metropolitan area. In 2006, the organization established a cultural center in order to further develop and expand its program and performance offerings. Located in the historic Houston Heights, the center provides a home from which the Foundation offers the majority of its classes and workshops, as well as hosts events, and educational programs.



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The Brazilian Arts Foundation hosts the Capoeira Luanda Houston Chapter, with classes administered by Professor Mauricio Campos under the supervision of Mestre Jelon Vieira, the pioneer of Capoeira in the United States.

The Brazilian Arts Foundation provides classes in Capoeira, several different Brazilian folkloric dances, Portuguese, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Samba. The programs are performed at the Foundation and throughout the city of Houston.



The Brazilian Arts Foundation performs at numerous events, festivals, and educational institutions throughout the year including Bayou City Arts Festival, Tapestry of World Dance, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Houston International Festival, the University of Houston, the Society for Performing Arts, The Houston Children's Museum, the Latin Grammys and numerous city-wide Gala events (the University of St. Thomas, Shell, etc.)

Through community partnerships such as the BAF-Wesley Community Center Program, the Brazilian Arts Foundation is able to bring in-house programs to different audiences in the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area.

Special Events

- ◆ **Samba Nights in the Heights.** These popular community events are quarterly events that attract between 100-120 participants. The Samba Night in the Heights features batacoda or Brazilian drums, samba lessons, live performances and live music.
- ◆ **Brazilian Movie Night.** The Brazilian Movie Night Series is a free-admission event that features a Brazilian movie once a month at the foundation's studio. This event has been attracting 30-50 people and was created to increase our audience exposure to the Brazilian culture, especially the Portuguese language.



- ◆ **The Annual Capoeira Batizado.** This event is not only a celebration of success and development for the Capoeirista, but also an event about community, family and determination. The Annual Capoeira Luanda Batizado brings people from Brazil, Canada, and several US cities, and an average of 200 students attend the event each year. In addition to the formal Capoeira graduation ceremony, the event offers several workshops taught by guest instructors.
- ◆ **Master Classes for the Community**
The Brazilian Arts Foundation sponsors regular visits from Brazilian artists, musicians and professional dancers. Some featured artists brought to teach technical workshops include Mestre Jelon, Jorge Alabe, Paula Reis and Janette Silva. Such special classes add to our mission in promoting the Brazilian

culture. Classes are open to the community and also include private workshops with the BAF Performing group. Annually, at least 4 special guest instructors visit the Foundation, bringing an average of 50 students to each class.

- ◆ **Brazilian Arts Night –** The Brazilian Arts Night is a new community event introduced in the Summer of 2009. The event featured the work of Houston-based Brazilian artists including canvas-oil painting, and hand-made jewelry. The event is open to the public and held at the Brazilian Arts Foundation cultural center.

Diplomacy

Ambassador

Antônio José Rezende de Castro



It is hard to notice how fast time goes by when we are surrounded by nice and interesting people, especially when they make extremely positive things happen.

I am referring to José Rezende de Castro, the distinguished Consul General of Brazil in Houston and to his lovely wife Carita Rezende de Castro. It has been my honor to know this amazing couple. During the past two and half years, Ambassador Rezende de Castro administration's in Houston brought about significant changes at the Consulate. First, the physical layout of the Consulate was changed: the small window which once was used to service the Brazilian community was transformed into four large, nice and comfortable booths, offering simultaneous and improved services. But this was just the start! Soon afterwards, more and better trained employees were hired. The Ambassador also appointed close and competent deputies, entrusting them with the responsibility of enhancing the services provided to the Brazilian community and to the public in general.



Houston he promoted meetings with leaders of the Brazilian communities spread out within his consular jurisdiction and from this group, appointed a leader to represent the Brazilian community in Texas at the "Brasileiros no Mundo" event. He and his chosen representative attended the event promoted by the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations in Rio de Janeiro. With intelligence, enthusiasm and vision, Ambassador Rezende de Castro's administration promoted Brazil and benefited all of those seeking services from the Consulate. I am very thankful and proud to have had the chance

The number of cities served by the "Itinerant Consulates" was also increased, to better meet the needs of other states under the Consulate General's jurisdiction. During his time in Houston, Ambassador Rezende de Castro and his wife were present at and showed their support to many events organized by the Brazil-Texas Chamber of Commerce and by the Brazilian community. They were also the perfect hosts during the celebration of Brazil's Independence Day, an event which had long been forgotten by prior administrations. This exceptional diplomat has always been aware of the importance and responsibilities of his duties as Consul General. He fulfills his role well and impartially. Upon his arrival in

to know him, and to learn from him that magnificence is not represented by the position that one holds, but by the generosity and wisdom that one has to offer. I applaud Mr. and Mrs. Rezende de Castro for all they have accomplished in Houston and wish them much success and happiness in their new Post.

By: Sergio Lima

Mrs. & Mr. George Donnelly, Mr. John Veig, Mrs. & Mr. David Vassar, Ambassador Antônio José Rezende de Castro, Mr. Sergio Lima, Mrs. & Mr. Alexandre Almeida, Mrs. & Mr. José Orlando Azevedo, Mr. Rafael Carsalade, Mrs. & Mr. Fernando Frimm



Adventure

Time to Ride

Since I was 15, I am used to ride motorcycle. Starting with a Honda ML 125cc, passing through several makes and models, I left behind a Yamaha VMax 1200 when we moved from Sao Paulo to the United States 5 years ago. Now I ride an Aprilia Shiver 750. The nice thing about the US is that you can afford having any motorcycle you may want. And drive it safely on the smooth roads of Texas.

Now I ride an Aprilia Shiver 750. The nice thing about the US is that you can afford having any motorcycle you may want. And drive it safely on the smooth roads of Texas. Since I was 15, I am used to ride motorcycle. Starting with a Honda ML 125cc, passing through From Houston, we have amazing locations to explore within a 100 miles radius. Every weekend is a different adventure. To riders, what matters is not only a nice destination but the trip itself, a journey to meet yourself, wandering in loosen thoughts, a rogue dodge watching the running scenery, wind blowing noisy all over you and your machine. The feeling of have borrowed the freedom and powerful sensation of the first pioneers extending the boundaries to unknown territories, stirs the imagination inspiring fulfilling sense of...

just being part of that. I recommend some 1 day routes that are quite pretty around Houston: The Bay area, Bolivar peninsula, Galveston, League City – Galveston Island (all the way going south), Matagorda, Brazoria park, Surf Side Beach, Victoria, coming back from I59 – Bellville, Fayetteville, Lagrange, Brenham, Hempstead – Austin, Lake Travis, Canyon lands park – Woodlands, Lake Conroe, Sam Houston forest crossing to Cold-spring, Lake Livingston scenic route. You will see livestock, fields and crops, smell the bluebonnet fresh scent of the meadows, lakes and bayous reflecting the blue sky and golden trembling sun rays of the approaching sunset. Always interesting are the local shops, many antique stores, bring back the history and telling how people lived not long time ago. You may find nice restaurants and typical bars, each one with its own personality, so different of the chain-restaurants with are used to. Pay attention to the details of the walls, the construction, the bathrooms. And talk to the bartender/owner. It is a journey into a movie. You feel the time stop. Enjoy the moment, close your eyes to hear different sounds, smell particular scents and feel the atmosphere of every unique place.

Sometimes the cell phone goes off, bringing you back to Earth in 2010. But that is fun too, so you can share the nice moment you have been through. After all, what is the deal if you cannot tell some one what cool stuff you've done? Either riding alone, with your wife/girlfriend on the back or in a group, the experience is so delightful when you stop by several spots all over the road, learning the local culture, making acquaintance and chatting with different characters that have built the old west, still living almost the same way, but with air conditioning and a pick-up truck, though.

Rey Cintra is Business Consultant specialized in Financial Planning and Import/Export business. He has been working with Atex Intl Corp in Houston, TX, developing procurement for companies, some from Brazil. (reycintra@hotmail.com). Let's go ride!



Business

FINANCE WITHIN EVERYONE'S REACH

Finances are an extensive topic and one that is necessary for proper management of home and business. A fundamental knowledge of finances is important in order to reach excellence in budgetary personal and professional goals. Financial management, at a professional level, aims to increase the assets of a company. These include the resources of capital, credit, and the efficient balance of both. The decisions made by a company are based on financial realities; scope of need and goals. In a large company, decisions are made by the department of finance. The complexity of the decisions requires that many specialists work as a team to achieve success. In a small business, decisions will be administered by the internal accounting department or as in most cases, by the sole proprietor. Talking finance implies talking money, credit, shares, bonds and mortgages. Today it has become a science knowing how to predict financial implications. It is also an art as one attempts to anticipate trends and knowing when and how to act. Firm financial knowledge is your only ally in deciding the best for today and avoiding difficulties for tomorrow. The access to capital is by far the most pressing need of all financial entities. This issue is common to all enterprises, regardless of size and of public or private nature. Within government the issue of help lines for both small and medium-sized enterprises is a topic that has been gathering strength as smaller business continues to grow in relevance to the country's economy, both for financial contribution and source of employment



In the personal or family environment, funding sources are a necessary option for those who seek to buy properties or other large items and also for those carrying out day to day chores such as super market purchases. Adequate negotiation of financing options must be sought for purchases such as credit cards and car purchases. Realistic financial expectations are necessary to create a financial stability within the home. As company owners we want to make use of resources based on need and characteristic of our company. Basing decisions on sound business principles is fundamental to a financially healthy enterprise. When this is the objective of the decision maker the probability of reaching the correct conclusions increase and so will the financial resources of the business. To accomplish this, the business owner must take the task of studying the different alternatives of financing in order to make decisions based on what is best for the company. Similarly, this feature of finance can be applied to the home.

When the opportunity arises to purchase land or property or embark on other large endeavors, the integrity of the family must be assured. Applying these financial tools correctly will avoid unnecessary costs or purchases and threats to the financial stability of the home. The decision maker must be part patient observer and part demanding analyst in order to ensure success for the mini-company that is the family unit. In financial analysis, the focus is on the needs that exist and the funds required in financing those needs. In a company or a home an assessment must be made as to current economic condition and willingness to risk. It is only after these factors are analyzed that goals may be set. It is during this process that unnecessary cost must be eliminated in an effort to strengthen the operation from within. If financing is required, potential banking institutions may be identified and the process of applying for funds may begin. In larger companies accounting and financial statements are tools in the decision-making process since they are produced under strict guidelines and requirements that are directly related to the procurement and implementation of the financial resources of the company. In the home, similar statements may be produced, specifically tailored to the user's requirements. The statements are as important to the company as to the home, since they provide an overview of well being and potential problems. Being aware of operations, achievements and challenges is the tool that will lead to successful decisions and productive results in the business world and on a personal level.

By Lucy Ponce de Leon

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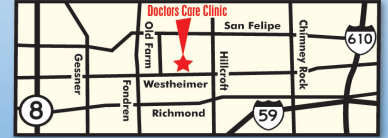


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Medicine

THE ART OF PORCELAIN LAMINATE VENEERS

Leticia Perezous, DDS, MS

According to Rufenacht (1990), all human desires are in some way related to beauty. It is for that reason that the teeth and the smile play a very important role in whether we perceive the face of a human being as attractive or not. It is now possible for the esthetic dentist to “beautify” the patient’s smile while creating a more “youthful” appearance.

A beautiful smile seems to reflect a certain style of living, an enhanced look, to improve self-esteem and general mental health. Many studies have proven that when you look good you feel good. The goal of cosmetic dentistry is to turn a dull smile into a dazzling one by modifying and correcting teeth that are crooked, chipped, stained, discolored, and to close unaesthetic gaps.

Before any treatment begins, it is important that patients explain what their personal goals are for their smile makeover and that their dentist performs a thorough examination to evaluate their oral health. It is always essential when enhancing beauty to be focused on additional important steps such as maintaining proper function and a great gingival health.

Porcelain laminate veneers are a conservative alternative to full coverage crowns (caps) for improving the appearance of anterior teeth. Porcelain veneers have evolved over the last several decades to become one of esthetic dentistry’s most popular restorations.

A porcelain laminate veneer is a thin shell of porcelain applied directly to tooth structure. The restoration derives its strength from the ability of a composite resin luting agent to bond porcelain to enamel. They require preparation of the tooth. Although this preparation is minimal and limited to the enamel of the tooth, sufficient enamel thickness must be removed to provide adequate space for a correctly contoured restoration. The preparation should provide a reduction of approximately 0.5 mm.

Dental porcelains play an important role in the fabrication of the most esthetic fixed restorations because they resemble natural teeth. Translucency, light transmission, and biocompatibility give dental porcelains highly desirable esthetic properties. Porcelain veneers are excellent in terms of their appearance and durability, and the actual procedure does not disturb the soft tissue (gums) or the neighboring fibers and ligaments.

Porcelain laminate veneers can give you straighter, whiter, even-looking teeth. They can be used to close spaces between teeth, lengthen small teeth or to cover malformed teeth. When teeth are chipped or beginning to wear, veneers can protect them from damage and restore their original appearance.

Smiles can be transformed painlessly, conservatively and quickly with dramatic, long-lasting results with the successful use of the porcelain laminate veneers. They are now the restorative choice for esthetics in numerous clinical circumstances that would have resulted in the use of full crowns (caps) in the past.

Medicine



Patient A (before treatment)



Patient A (after treatment)



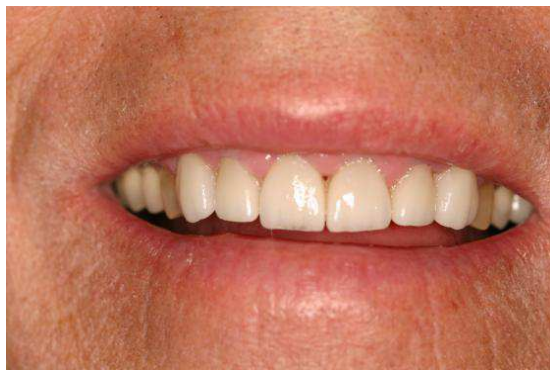
Patient B (before treatment)



Patient B (after treatment)



Patient C (before treatment)



Patient C (after treatment)



Patient D (before treatment)



Patient D (after treatment)

EXTENDING THE REACH



Sintex 60,000 sqft warehouse expansion in Rosenberg, Texas will accommodate the announced increase in production capacity by Mineração Curimbaba, its parent company and sole proppant supplier in Poços de Caldas, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

The new facility will be operational beginning September, 2010.



SINTEX



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